

Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

Section 69, Pages 2041 - 2070

This collection contains correspondence regarding indemnities for cattle killed by tuberculosis, concerns over the findings of veterinary inspection, discussion of an outbreak of rabies among Kansas dogs that affected cattle, complaints of veterinary treatments killing animals, and general discussion about livestock diseases. The correspondence is mostly between the Livestock Sanitary Commissioner and various livestock owners throughout Kansas.

Creator: Kansas. Livestock Sanitary Commission

Date: June 1926-September 1929

Callnumber: Livestock Sanitary Commissioner, Correspondence, 1926-1929

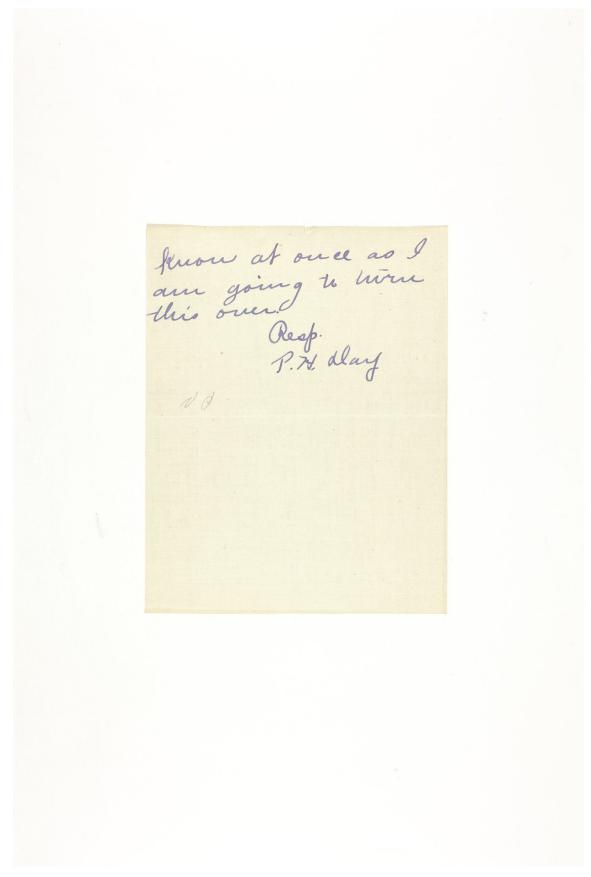
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KANSAS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

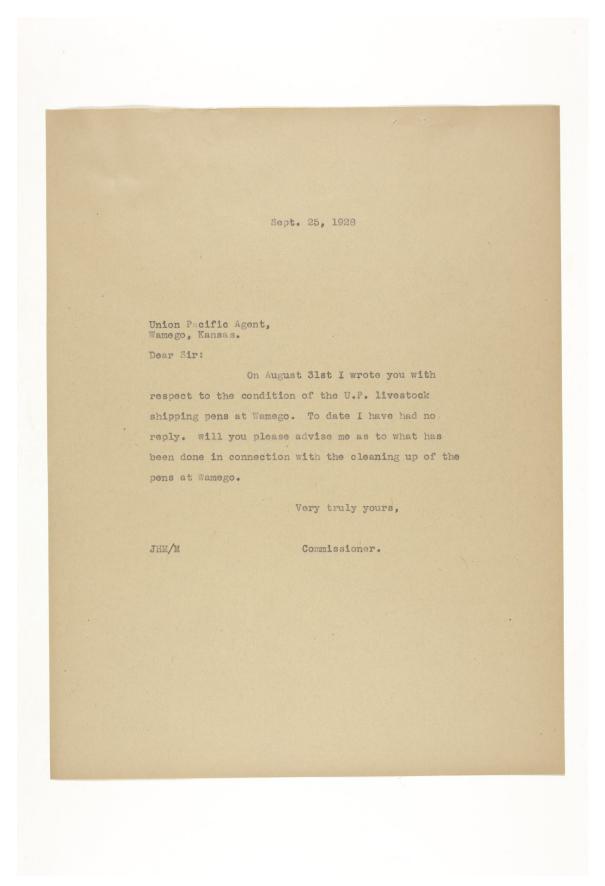




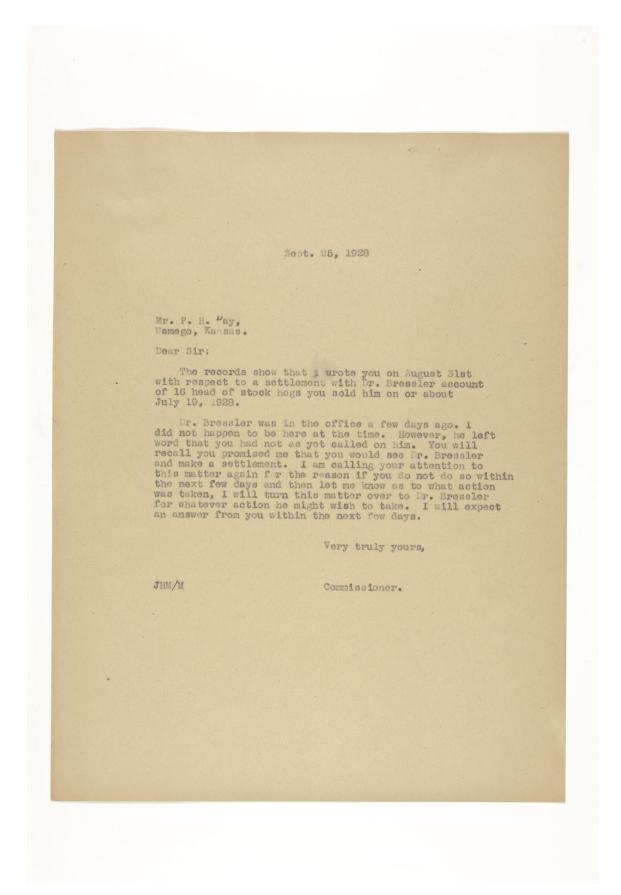


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Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

Sept. 25, 1928

Dr. A. H. Bressler, Wamego, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

I am sorry I was not in the office a few days ago when you called.

With respect to furnishing evidence showing that the U.P. livestock loading pens at Wamego were infected with hog cholera, the only evidence of course we have in connection with a matter of this kind is the report of our Mr. Gray who made an investigation of the hog cholera outbreaks in that locality and a statement of Mr. Day advising that he shipped hogs out of the U.P. stock pens at Wamego to Wichita on or about July 9th and that the hogs shipped were found to be infected with cholera on their arrival at Wichita.

I think the evidence of the local veterinarian that hog cholera prevailed in and around Wamego and also the fact that Mr. Day bought hogs from infected farms and assembled them in the U.P. stock yard pens at Wamego would be onnclusive evidence that the yards were infected with the disease. According to the records I have it would appear that you would have no difficulty in proving that the U.P. stock pens were infected by reason of handling cholera infected hogs and that Mr. Day knew it or should have known it when he sold you hogs out of thed yards. I have had no reply from Mr. Day to my letter of August 31st. I am writing him again this date and am enclosing you a copy of the letter.

Very truly yours,

Commissioner.

JHW/M



Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

August 31, 1928

Union Pacific Agent, Wemego, Mansas.

Dear Sir:

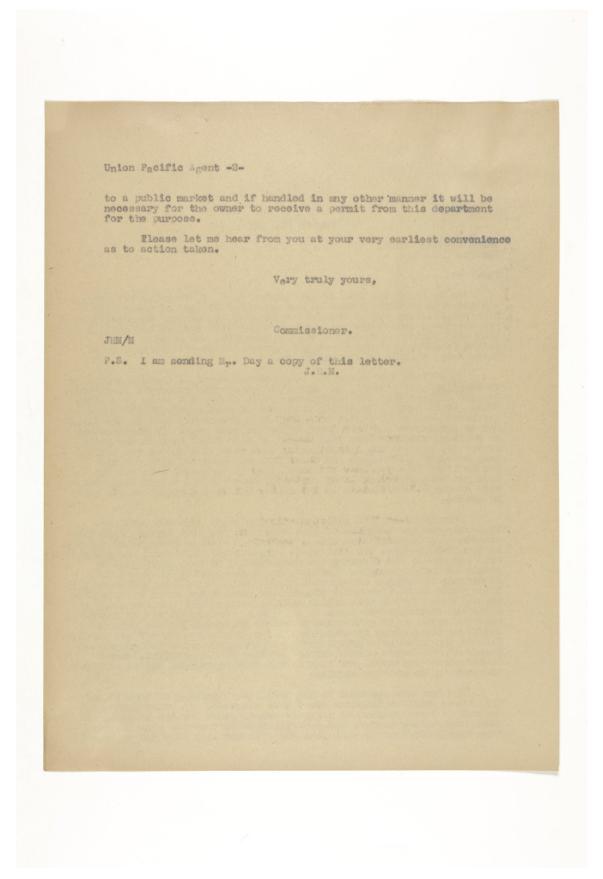
On or about the 15th of this month Dr. A. H. Bressler of Wamego advised this department that he had purchased 16 head of stock hogs from one, P.H.Dgy out of the U.P. stockyards at Wamego. Investigation has developed that these hogs were infected with cholara and most of them died within a few days after the purchase. On receipt of the letter from Dr. Bressler we sent a representative of this department, David Gray, to make an investigation.

He advises that there has been several cases of cholera tributary to Wamego traced directly to hogs sold out of your company's stockyards. He also advises that the stockyards are in a very bad state of sanitation. Great pools of stagmant water are present and have been there for months and it is a fact that hogs have frequently died in the yards and no great care has been taken to remove such hogs. No disinfectant or sanitary measures have been used. He also found hogs in the yards on the day he made the investigation that were sick and he was advised they belonged to P.H.Day. He tates that he conferred with you and you admitted that you knew the conditions in the yards were bad but that you were powerless to do anything; that you had called the attention of the U.P. officials to the matter but that they had as yet taken no action.

From the fact that railroad shipping stock pens are used continuously for the shipment of live stock and from the further fact that occasionally hogs infected with a contagious disease are handled through railroad stock pens, the live stock commissioner has issued no regulations with respect to the cleaning and disinfecting of such stock pens by reason of such shipments. Lowever, under the conditions of the U.P. stockyards at Uamego, as reported by Mp. Gray, it will be necessary for those yards to be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected at as early a date as possible. If you will advise this department when you are ready to clean and disinfect the yards we will send a representative to supervise the work, or if your company prefers otherwise you can go ahead and clean these yards by draining all the standing water off the yards, fill in the holes with gravel and then thoroughly spray the ground and inside of the fences with a strong solution of disinfectant, cresol disinfectant preferred, and then advise this department and we will send some one to inspect the results.

You are also directed to not permit the handling of hogs in the U.F. stock pens for purposes other than shipment. In other words, you are not to permit anyone to use your public yards for the handling of stock hogs in any manner, and you will therefore advise your shippers when they place hogs in your pens for shipment that they are to be sent







Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

August 31, 1928

Union Pacific Agent, Wamego, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

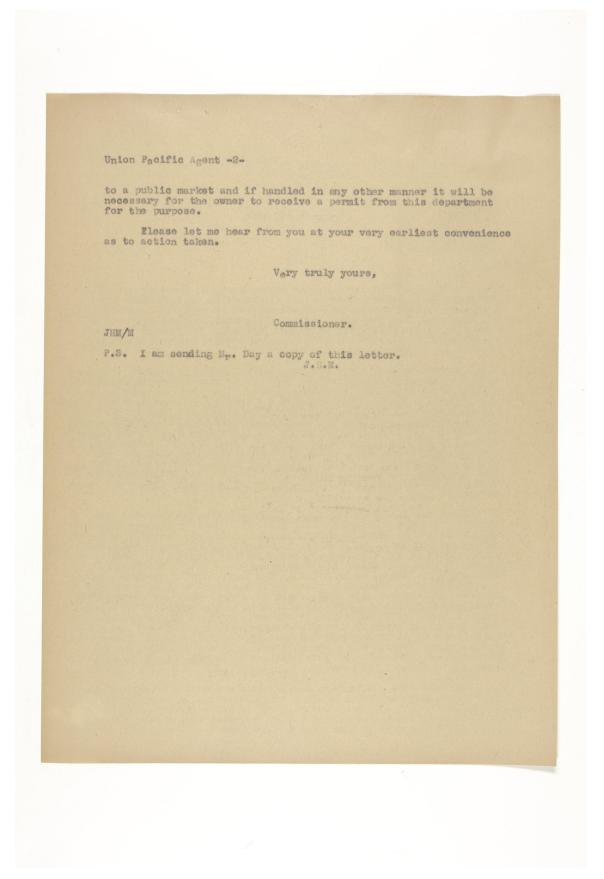
On or about the 16th of this month Dr. A. H. Bressler of Wamego advised this department that he had purchased 16 head of stock hogs from one, P.H.Day out of the U.P. stockyards at Wamego. Investigation has developed that these hogs were infected with cholera and most of them died within a few days after the purchase. On receipt of the letter from Dr. Eressler we sent a representative of this department, David Gray, to make an investigation.

He advises that there has been several cases of cholera tributary to Wamego traced directly to hogs sold out of your company's stockyards. He also advises that the stockyards are in a very bad state of sanitation. Great pools of stagnant water are present and have been there for months and it is a fact that hogs have frequently died in the yards and no great care has been taken to remove such hogs. No disinfectant or sanitary measures have been used. He also found hogs in the yards on the day he made the investigation that were sick and he was advised they belonged to F.H.Day. He sates that he conferred with you and you admitted that you knew the conditions in the yards were bad but that you were powerless to do anything; that you had called the attention of the U.P. officials to the matter but that they had as yet taken no action.

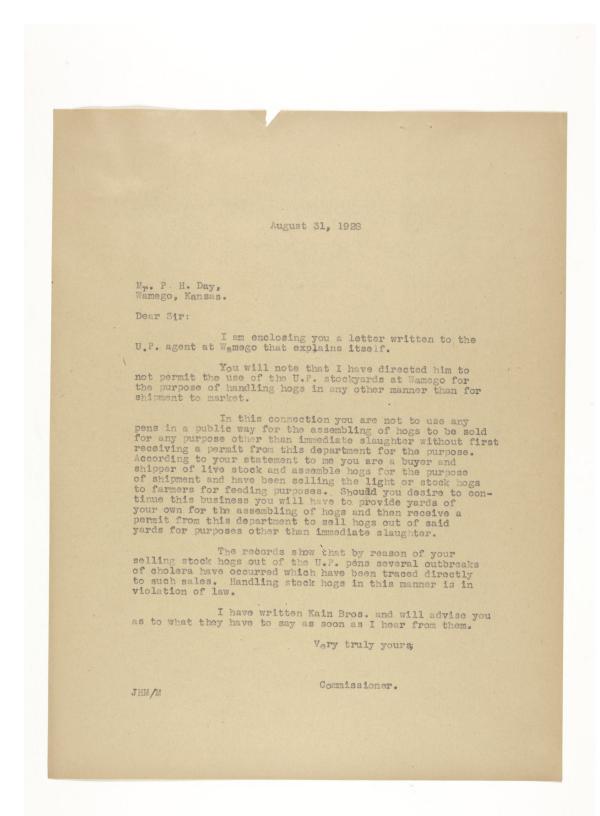
From the fact that railroad shipping stock pens are used continuously for the shipment of live stock and from the further fact that occasionally hogs infected with a contagious disease are handled through railroad stock pens, the live stock commissioner has issued no regulations with respect to the cleaning and disinfecting of such stock pens by reason of such shipments. Lowever, under the conditions of the U.P. stockyards at Wamego, as reported by Mr. Gray, it will be necessary for these yards to be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected at as early a date as possible. If you will advise this department when you are ready to clean and disinfect the yards we will send a representative to supervise the work, or if your company prefers otherwise you can go ahead and clean these yards by draining all the standing water off the yards, fill in the holes with gravel and then thoroughly spray the ground and inside of the fences with a strong solution of disinfectant, cresol disinfectant preferred, and then advise this department and we will send some one to inspect the results.

You are also directed to not permit the handling of hogs in the U.P. stock pens for purposes other than shipment. In other words, you are not to permit anyone to use your public yards for the handling of stock hogs in any mammer, and you will therefore advise your shippers when they place hogs in your pens for shipment that they are to be sent











Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

August 31, 1928

Dr. A. H. Bressler, Wamego, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

Answering yours of the 29th instant.

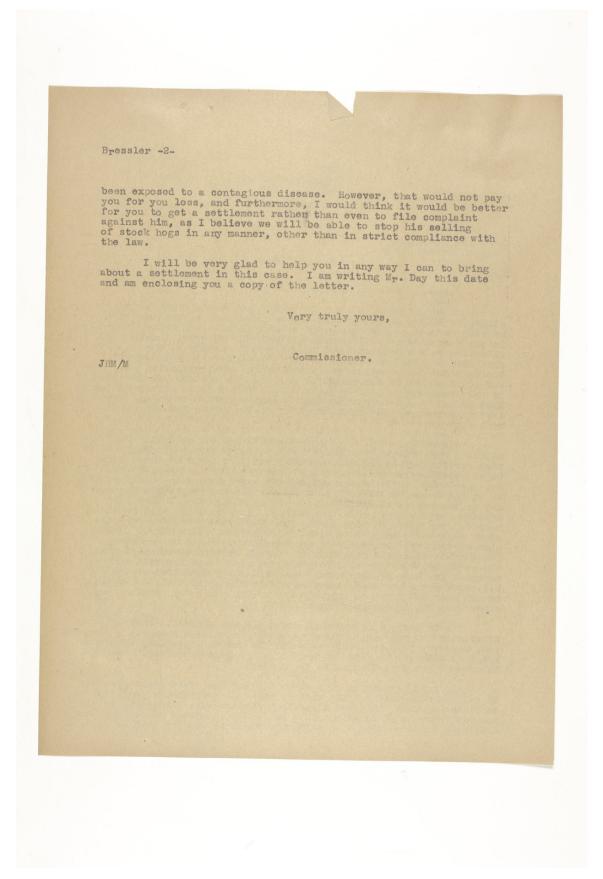
On August 22nd, the day following Mr. Gray's visit to your place, P. H. Day of Wamego came to the office and talked over with mr with respect to his buying and selling hogs in and around Wamego. He was here before Mr. Gray made his report. However, I called his attention to the complaint you had made with respect to the hogs you purchased of him. He advised me that he would call on you within the next day or two and make a satisfactory settlement with you, and would advise me accordingly. Mr. Day also advised Mr. Gray that he had promised you that he would make a satisfactory settlement but that he had been so very busy that he had neglected to do so, but that he would see you within the next day or so and make an adjustment with you.

According to Mr. Gray's report, Mr. Day has evidently been handling hogs through the Union Packfic stockyards at Wamego in a very careless and reckless manner. I told Mr. Day that there could be no question but what he was liable to you for any damages you may have sustained by reason of the stle of the hogs in question and as stated above, he assured me that ne would see you within the next day or two and settle with you, hence the reason that I have not written you with respect to the matter. I advised him that he would have to stop handling hogs through the U.P. stockyards for purposes other than to be shipped to market for immediate slaughter. I have also advised the U.P. railroad company that it would be necessary for them to clean and disinfect the Wamego stockyards and also that the yards could not be used for handling stock hogs for sale in any manner. Mr. Gray reports a very bad unsanitary condition at the U.P. stockyards at Wamego and states that the agent advised him that he had made an effort to stop the use of the yards for handling hogs other than for immediate shipment.

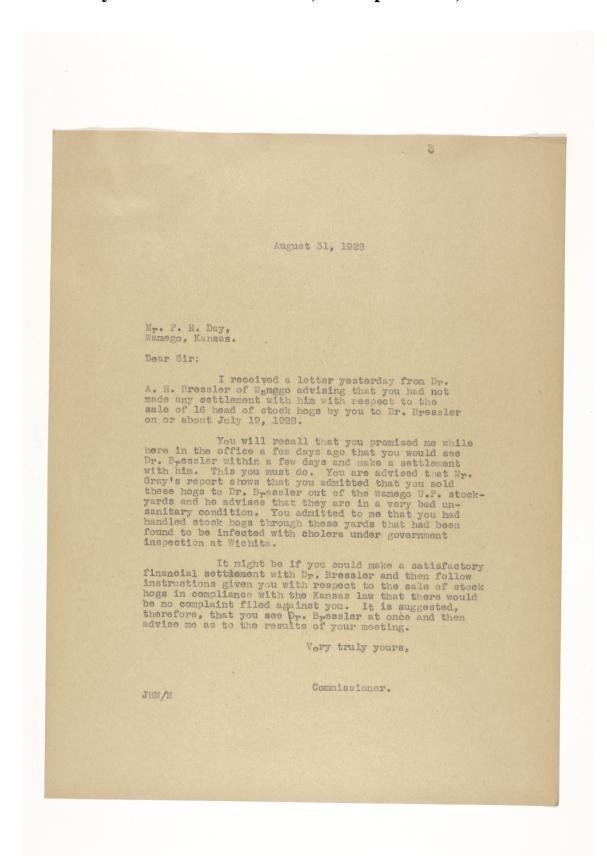
It is very unfortunate no doubt for the community that this department had not been advised as to this condition sooner. I assure you, however, that the stockyards will be put in a sanitary condition and they will not be used for housing stock mogs hereafter. This department has jurisdiction in the matter.

As a suggestion in your case, I would use every means possible to collect from this man Day what he owes you even though you filed complaint against him after effecting a settlement. According to the records there is no doubt but what he can be convicted of selling hogs that were infected with a contagious disease or knowing them to have











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August 31, 1928

Kain Bros., Wamego, Kansas.

Gentlemen:

P. H. Day of Wamego has submitted to this department a statement of losses he sustained by reason of a purchase of hogs he had made from your firm that were found to be infected with cholera under government inspection at he Wichita market. He states that on or about July 7th he purchased 87 head of hogs from you, shipping 68 head on the same date to the Cudahy Packing Company, Wichita and held over 19 head in the U.P. stockyards at Wamego. He states that sometime between Saturday evening and Monday morning 3 of the 19 head of hogs died at the yards. Several others of the 16 showed signs of sickness. He states that he notified you of this and that Wm Kain of your firm called at the U.P. stockyards and looked at the hogs and suggested to him that he go ahead and ship the hogs and do the best he could with them. He states the hogs were loaded with others consigned to Cudely Packing Company, wichita on Monday, July 9th. The records show that two more of the hogs were dead on the arrival of the shipment at Wichita, and under government inspection the hogs were not permitted to be slaughtered and were classed as being infected with cholera.

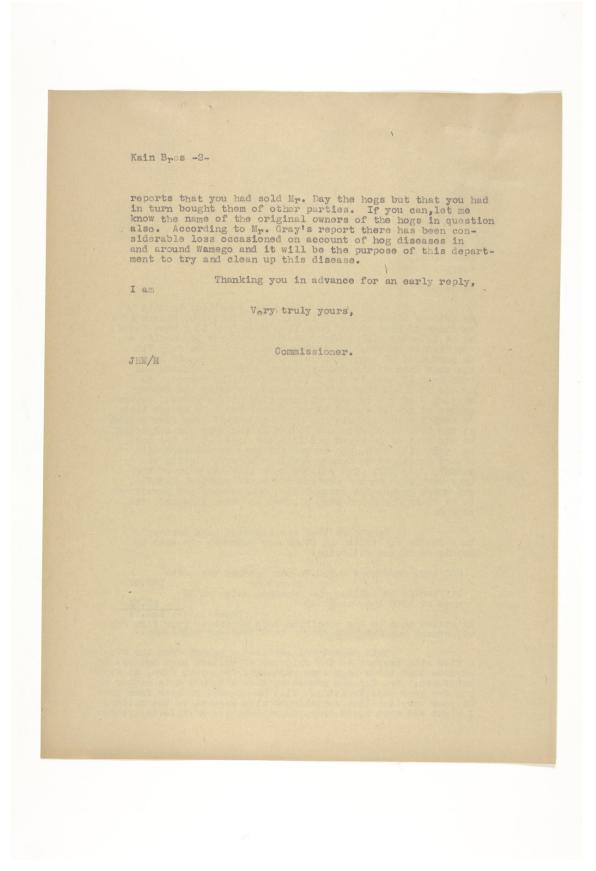
He states that the diseased hogs were sold to a feeder at Wichita at \$7.65 per hundred. He sets up as his claim the following:

855 lbs. dead hogs @ \$10.75 per hundred the price he paid you or Difference in selling and purchase price on 14 hogs or 1930 lbs. at \$3.10

He states that he has submitted this matter to your firm for adjustment but has been unable to effect any settlement.

This department received a report from the Wichita office with respect to the shipment of cholora hogs and Mr. Day advises that these hogs were purchased from your firm, as above set forth. Mr. Day has requested that I abmit this matter to you for your consideration. Will be pleased to hear from you at your very earliest convenience with respect to the matter. I might add that David Gray, representative of this department,







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State of Kansas

OFFICE OF
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER
TOPEKA

August 22nd.,1928

Mr. J.H. Mercer State Livestock Commssioner Topeka Kansas;

Dear Mr. Mercer:

In line with the hog cholera investigations in Pottawatomie County, yesterday, I find that some cholera is prevelent in the County. Several outbreaks are reported by Dr. W.O. Tucker, of Wamego, near Belview and Lauisville. The tree veterinarians have been doing considerable vaccination of hogs in the county. No doubt some of this may be traced directly to the Wamego stock yards which are in a very bad state of Sanitation. "reat pools of stagnant water are present and have been there for months. Hogs have frequently died in the yards and no great care has been taken to remove such hogs. No disinfecting or other sanitary measures have been us ed as far as Ican find out. At present some hogs are in these yards, belong to Paul Day. These hogs have been sick and still show cholera symtoms such as cough and staggering gait. Crawford Smith and Henry Baker reliable shippers of Wamego, state that they will not use the yards at all and have been put out of business, both having suffered heavy losses from hogs that have been confined in the Wamego Union Pacific Agent A.E. Cosley states that he knows the condition is very bad but is powerless to do anyhting about it. He states that Mr Day has been using the yards for months , having hogs quartered there constantly, even to the extent of building other smaller pens for his own convenience. The agent has called the attention of



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State of Kansas

OFFICE OF
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER
TOPEKA

his superiors to the matter but they are not inclined to do anything about it, in order not to make any one mad. As the matter stands one shipper has simply taken over these public yards and is using them like they were his own, while other and more reliable men have ceased to use the yards at all. I would suggest that the Livestock Commissioner advise the Union Pacific to get rid of Mr. Day and to theroly clean up the yards, drain, the stagnant and desease laden, water, and using abundence of lime and white wash. At present the yards are a menace to livestock health of the cummunity, as h no hogs can be quartered there without being infected, as has happened frequently in the past few months. Other pens and yards are not suitable for handling cattle either.

Mr. Baker and Mr. Smith, the latter I have known for years, were very glad to have a representative of our office in the neighborhood and ga ve me every asistance. Both of these men are theroly disgusted with the situation and hope for help from our department.

Mr. Day has no rating or standing in the community whatever, but because of his pleasing personality, has been for a long
time indulging in unethical practices. Considerable talk is present
about his selling hogs from pens containing dead and deseased hogs,
loading dead ones on cars to get railroad adjustments, etc,etc.

Personally he is decidedly a "good fellow", but reliable men say that
his word is no good, and his check worse.

Dr. Bressler, a well known and good doctor of Wamego, on July 19th bought 16 hogs from Day at the yards, paying\$194.70 for the hogs. 11 head of these were bought by Day from Ed. Braymer,



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State of Kansas

OFFICE OF
LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER
TOPEKA

south of Wamego , and had been in the yards just one week on the day of the sale to Dr. Bressler. On the 22nd, two of the Bressler hogs died. Dr. Bressler called Dr. Fulmer D.V.M., of Wamego, who posted the dead hogs and pronounced it cholera. He vaccinated the remaining hogs, with the exception of two, which were too far gone to justify the vaccination. In all ten of the Bressler hogs died within one week. Dr. Bressler stated that Mr. Day seemed over anxious to sell the hogs to him and made several trips to the Bressler farm to do so. Six hogs are now left and two of these seem to be getting better, the other four are doubtful. Dr. Bressler states that he has been hurt in all to the extent of \$212.50, and wants Mr. Day to return his money and take the remaining hogs. Unless Mr. Day makes satisfactory settlement with Dr. Bressler at once, there can be no doubt that Dr. Bressler will prosecute Mr. Day to the fullestt extent of the law, and as Mr. Day surely must have known that the hogs were at least exposed to desease, from the well know history of the Wamego yards , It would seem that Dr. Bressler has the law on his side. I advisedMr Day of this fact . He has agreed on several occasions to call on Dr. Bressler, and make some sort of settelement, but to date has not done so. told me that he knew that he had not "acted right", but had been too busy to call on Dr. Bressler.

Mr. Day purchased some hogs from Mr Tessendorpf of the Wamego neighborhood, and confined these hogs in the yards. Some of them were sold and condemned. Mr. Tessendorpf in the sperit of fairness gave Day a check, but was advied by his banker to stop payment in view of the fact that no hogs had been sick at the



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LIVE STOCK SANITARY COMMISSIONER
TOPEKA

farm in months. Dr. W.O. Tucker vaccinated hogs at the farm two weeks after the sale to Day, and found no sick ones, and none have been sick since. Dr. Tucker agreed last night to make a trip to Tessendorphs to get the history of the case. His telephone message this morning confirms the belief; that the hogs were infected in the Wamego yards and that Mr. Tessendorph is in no way responsible.

These are only two of the cases of hogs shipped from the Wamego yards, which have been sick or died. A shipment to Wichita not long ago contained several condemned hogs. These were shipped by Day and bought of Kaine Brothers, who in turn bought them locally. These hogs were not vaccinated, and were sold by Kaine Brothers to Day with that understanding. Kaine Brothers handle many hogs bought locally and shipped in, and now have about 1,000 head on feed.

All hogs on feed at the Kaine farm are vaccinated. They report few losses from any cause, altho Dr. Tucker thinks that they have lost about sixty head in the past few months.

Nearly every one handling hogs have had losses in cases where hogs passed through, or were confined in the Wamego yards. Hogs bought in these yards and then returned to the country became sick and many died. Many hogs shipped to the big markets after beingassembled in these yards were condemned.

Respectfully yours avid Day



Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

Mr H Mercel

A.H.BRESSLER.M.D. 8-16-29

Thoka Mans.

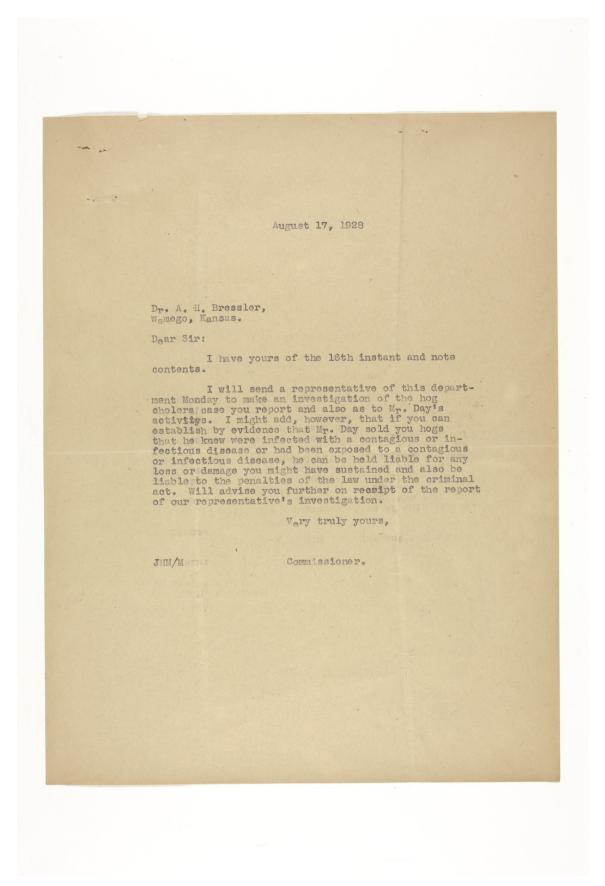
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a regular stupper

P.H.Day Warnego out of the stock yests at that place
They were sich with the cholera or most of them died
in a few days.
I would like to know what rights I have in
a case of this kind as no doubt he knew they
were sich as a cas he had shipfed to wichite
previous to this were infected. No doubt you have
the records on that sare in your ffice



A.H.BRESSLER, M.D. WAMEGO, KANSAS
I can come down if you wire gir
me an effantment, perhaps one of your
men should come uf & nivestigele so I
Himh he has sold hogs out of the enfected
yards to others-
I would to push the case as I am
informal this man is very unreliable.
I am on a farm about 10 me. M. E. of town
Your Mr Gray has been out here - at Bressler



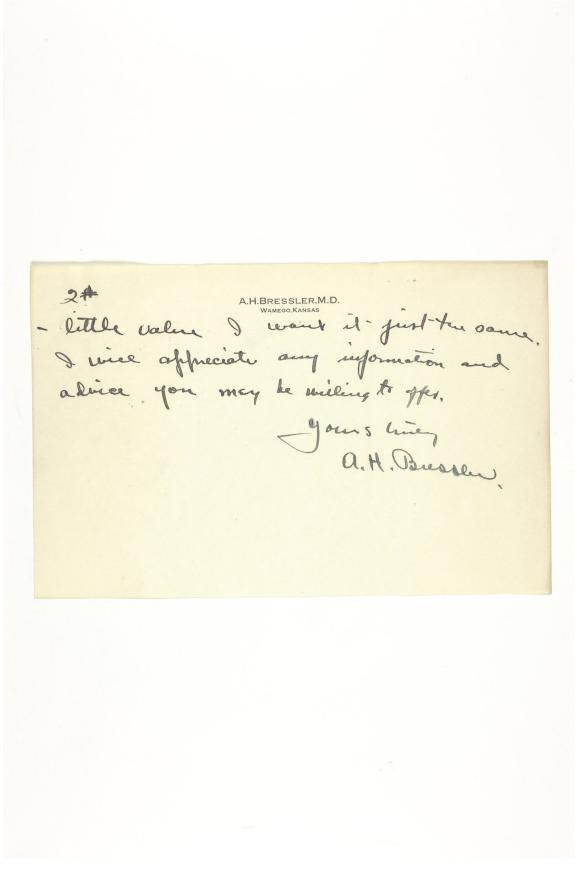




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I fed that I want are the feels to pear hefore our Co. alty. for pro-secution aero I whenh to one him for damages. I have never heard a thing from him and undustant that a judgement would be to







Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929

Wamego, Kansas. August 18, 1928

Mr. J. H. Mercer, Live Stock Commissioner, Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Sir:

On July 7, 1928, I purchased 87 head of hogs from Kain Bros., Wamego, Kansas. These hogs were delivered to me at the Union Pacific stockyards for shipment on Saturday July 7th. 68 head of these hogs were shipped to Cudahy Packing Company, Wichita. 19 were held over at the Union Pacific stockyards. Some time between Saturday evening and Monday morning 3 of the 19 hogs died at the yards. Some of the other hogs did not look healthy and I called Wm Kain and he came to the Union Pacific stockyards and looked at the hogs.

He told me to go ahead and ship the hogs and do the best I could with them. The hogs were loaded with others in a shipment consigned to Cudahy Packing Company, Wichita, on Monday, $J_{\rm ul} y$ 9th. Two more of the hogs were dead on the arrival of the shipment at Cudahys at Wichita. Under government inspection the hogs were not permitted to be slaughtered and were classed as being infected with cholers. These hogs were sold to a local trader for feeding purposes at \$7.65 per hundred, thereby entailing a loss on the transaction as follows:

855 lbs. dead hogs at \$10.75 per hundred Difference in selling and purchase price on 14 hogs or 1930 lbs. at \$3.10 \$92.91

59.83

Total

152.74

I have submitted the matter to Kain Bros. for adjustment but have been unable to effect any settlement. Since these hogs were reported to you as cholera infected hogs I am requesting that you take the matter up with Kain Bros. with a view of bringing about a satisfactory settlement in connection with this transaction.

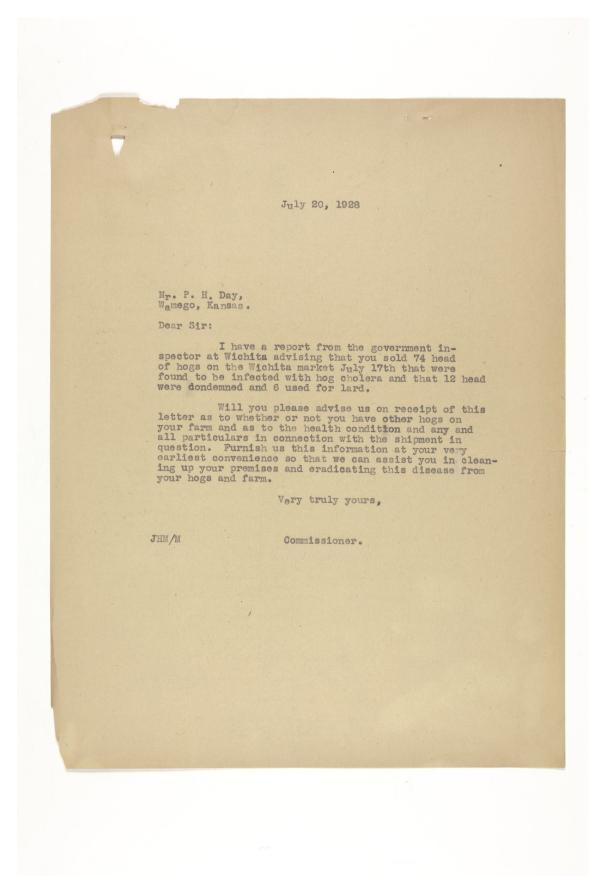
Very truly,

9-16. Day



F.I. Form 11 C. 31. S. Department of Agriculture, B. AAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY. Report of	
Received at Wichits, Kans. Received at Wichits, Kans. (Station.) Date	
Number passed for food for lard Number condemned Age of animals to accupied prior to shipping: Township	
County Pottawatomie State Kansas. Feeder or owner P R Day. Address Kansas. Shipper Same	
Norm.—Further obtainable history may be written on the back of this slip. The object of this report is to locate the premises on which diseased animals have been kept and the name and address of the individual who owned or controlled them while on such premises, hence the necessity for accuracy and completeness.	







Livestock Sanitary Commissioner's Office, correspondence, 1926-1929



Dr. J. R. Mohler, Chief of B.A.I., U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.

Dear Doctor:

I am herewith returning articles of agreement for the co-operative research investigation with respect to anaplasmosis signed by Dean Call, Director of the Agricultural Experimental Station, State Agricultural College and myself. You will note that Topeka, Kansas, has been designated as headquarters. I might add, however, that Dean Call suggested that because of the nature of the work it might have been better to have designated Manhattan as headquarters. This can be changed later by mutual agreement if necessary. The present headquarters of the experimental research work is Sedan, Kansas. It is presumed that the research work will continue in that locality until completed. So at any time there needs to be a conference of co-operating agencies called and it is thought best for the meeting to be held at Manhattan, arrangements can be made accordingly.

For your information, the research investigation with respect to anaplasmosis at Sedan was started more than three weeks ago. Two animals were purchased by local parties at Sedan and placed at the disposal of Drs. Stiles, Day and Leasure. Later it was thought that more test animals were needed and three other animals were purchased. Housing facilities were provided for the cattle, stalls fly screened and an office for laboratory work. Tests were started 10 or 15 days ago by inoculation. I have not been in Sedan for the last two weeks and have had no further report as to the extent of the experimental work or results in any way. I expect to go to Sedan next Wednesday.

In the fore part of September this department stationed three veterinarians at Sedan, Drs. Chas. C. Foulk, T. F. Dunham and George I. Smith, at state's expense. They were instructed to treat all cattle found to be infected with anaplasmosis. Two of these veterinarians are still at work in Chautauqua county.

It is my plan now to tuberculin test the cattle in the county under the modified free area plan. In doing this it will bring information from all farms in the county that might be of help to the research investigators. The veterinarians taking part in the tuberculosis eradication work will also be instructed to keep a complete record of all cattle found to be infected with anaplasmosis and continue treatment as at present. More than likely



